UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/1266
8 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 8 NOVEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The lives of 5 children and 1 woman became the latest tragic casualties and examples of how unsafe the "safe area" of Sarajevo has once again been allowed to become.

On Tuesday, 8 November 1994 at least six mortars were fired into civilian areas within Sarajevo. One mortar fell in front of a school killing four children and one woman while wounding many others. Another innocent child was killed by snipers, as once again the trams and streets of Sarajevo were targeted.

We must question as to why there has been no response to this latest attack upon the "safe area"/"exclusion zone". Do some within and without UNPROFOR consider this to be no longer part of their mandate, as has been signalled by recent communications from certain elements of UNPROFOR Command to the "Bosnian Serb" military command. We believe that the Security Council must now ascertain what de facto mandate is being enforced in the RBH and, in particular, the "safe area" of Sarajevo, and why there is an increasing tendency to overlook targeting and victimization of civilians within this "safe area"/"exclusion zone".

For those who may be so cynical to suggest otherwise, in the war in the RBH or in any other war military actions between armed forces on the battlefield cannot in any legal or moral fashion justify or mitigate these increasing attacks upon civilians within the "safe area" of Sarajevo or the tolerance of such attacks by those forces meant to counter them.

Contrary to trends in the Spring of 94, the citizens of Sarajevo, as a consequence of closure of the "Blue Route", denial of humanitarian assistance, increased sniping, and, now, shelling, are quickly approaching the depths of suffering, death and dismay seen only prior to the declaration of the Sarajevo "exclusion zone".

94-43822 (E) 081194 091194

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative